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JANET NICHOLSON
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■ E.L. CROSSLEY Reunion to mark 50th year

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

E.L. Crossley Secondary School is more than just an education institution. Its halls are filled with 50 years of memories of alumni who have since graduated.

Cam Baty, a graduate of the Pelham high school and who is now teaching there, is helping to organize what he says is sure to be an important event in the school's history.

E.L. Crossley's 50th anniversary reunion — May 17 to 19 — will feature special messages from former graduates, memorabilia displays, a pub night, food vendors, a street dance featuring alumni Crossley bands and a presentation of arts, drama and music.

see CROSSLEY | page 2

Cooking up some fun



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Brittany Lilley, 7, and Alexandria Mercie, 7, were all smiles last Wednesday at Pelham Public Library's Fonthill branch when they decorated cupcakes with sprinkles. The cupcake decoration workshop was offered as part of the library's March Break programming. For more pictures see page 3.



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upfront

■ CROSSLEY



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Pictured from left to right Janet Cripps, Cam Baty, Brian Baty and Teri Lymburner are a part of a committee that is organizing the 50th reunion of E.L. Crossley Secondary School students.

Grads inspire next the generation

FROM PAGE 1

Many of the school's graduates have gone on to lead successful lives — some have become mayors, others have gone on to work in the film industry and a few have returned to its ballroom halls to inspire the next generation of Crossley students.

Baty says past graduates include Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs, Lucas Films CGI director and designer Jason Reeves and international photojournalist and broadcaster Scott Woodward, just to name a few.

"I'm really looking forward

■ It was named after Edward Lewis Crossley, who was principal of Pelham District High School and later served as superintendent of its school board.

■ Crossley opened its doors to 600 students on Sept. 3, 1963.

to seeing all of those faces I haven't seen in such a long time," Baty says.

Reunion organizers are

■ Crossley offered courses in business, commerce, science, technology and trade branches.

■ With the eventual closure of Pelham High School and Thorold-Fonthill High School, Crossley became the only public high school serving

the needs of students in the Pelham and Wainfleet communities.

■ Over the years, Crossley has been known as a Vocational school, a composite school, a centre for the arts and an international baccalaureate School.

online and share old photographs. Visit www.elcrossley-alumni.com or call 905- 892-2835.

■ WELLAND RIVER

Floodplain under review

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNewsStaff

WAINFLEET — Mayor April Jeffs said she's confident errors will surface as a result of a peer review of the Welland River floodplain study released in the spring of 2011.

"I'm anticipating that they're going to come across something," she said.

And if errors are found, she hopes Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority's recently revised floodplain maps can be again revised to resolve concerns of affected landowners.

NPCA's new floodplain maps, developed by consultant Aquafor Beech Ltd., include significant increases in the size of floodplains along the waterway. The study has left area landowners concerned about potential development restrictions on their property.

Jeffs, vice-chairwoman of NPCA's board of directors, said members of the Welland River floodplain review committee voted two weeks ago to hire engineering consultant AMEC to conduct a professional peer review of the study.

She said questions from landowners about the way the NPCA study was conducted led to the review.

"We questioned some of the methods they used regarding rainfall calculations and

things like that," Jeffs said. "That's been coming from the residents. A lot of the residents have really done their homework, and we have some really sharp people on the implementation committee."

John Kukulis, director of water management, said the peer review is scheduled to begin next week, and it is hoped to be complete by the end of June.

Despite concerns of property owners, Kukulis said the revised floodplain maps won't necessarily stop development. He said policies can be adopted to accommodate development in affected areas.

"The floodplain is so broad, I'm sure we can work with policy to address any potential development that's of any significance," he said. "But at this point, there just hasn't been an acceptance of the (floodplain) line. We have to accept where the line is, and then if we feel it has a significant impact on development then we can look at ways to accommodate development."

Despite the assurances, Jeffs remains skeptical.

"Once something like that is implemented, you just never know," she said. "We don't want to take that chance. We want to make sure these lines are where they need to be."

allan.benner@sunmedia.ca

E.L. CROSSLEY'S HISTORY

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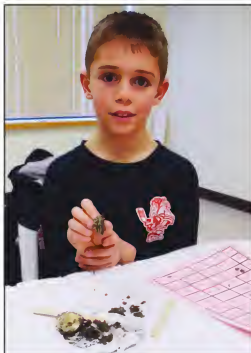


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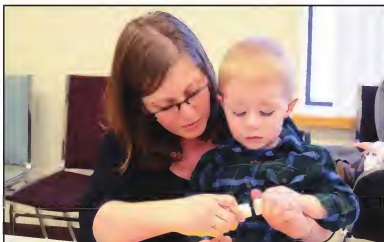
SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Matthew Iannizzi, 9, examined an owl pellet and found bones of a rodent inside during Pelham Public Library's Crazy for Owls program at the Fonthill branch.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Carolyn Saari helped her children Mya, 6, and Aliyah, 4, frost cup cakes.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Leah Letford helps her son Russell Letford, 3, construct a lion.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Myles Vedder stopped by Pelham Public Library's Fonthill branch last week for Crazy for Animals and decorated his very own lion.



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Michael Lilley, 9, shows off a few of the tasty treats he decorated during a cupcake decorating workshop at Pelham Public Library's Fonthill branch last Wednesday.

PelhamNEWS

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Sarah Ferguson, REPORTER

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Stroll down Memory Lane

Although we don't always think about the people who lived in Pelham many years ago, they were here.

And they played an important role in shaping the community.

Readers looking at this week's comment page will notice an older photograph with a very important question above it—Do you remember? Each month, the Pelham Historical Society will submit an old photograph to be published in the Pelham News.

The photographs will range from old buildings, to services clubs and organizations and maybe some old high school photos from way back when.

These pictures will share an interesting piece of information about the town of Pelham, or will ask readers to identify who the individuals in the photographs are.

The purpose is to help the historical society identify names and faces of people who have been left unnamed—and perhaps bring a smile to a few faces looking at them.

Perhaps a reader might recognize his or her mother, or father, maybe a sister, or a brother.

Some people might be surprised at what they learn by looking at old photographs.

It's certainly a lot of fun to pull a photo album out of the closet, dust it off and take a stroll down memory lane.

We invite readers to join in the fun while looking back at these old pictures, and of course, remember what has made the town of Pelham so special—the people who shape the community.

If anyone is able to identify the people and places in each photograph that appears in Pelham News, they can contact the Pelham Historical Society by e-mail at pelhamhistoricalimages@yahoo.ca.

If anyone has any interesting photographs from many years ago, they can also send them to the Pelham News by e-mail at sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca or call 905-732-2411 ext. 231.

—Sarah Ferguson

comment at is community?

Over the last number of years, council has concentrated on improving the infrastructure of our town. Now, we are expanding our focus to include the building of community.

Some of the infrastructure improvements have been multi-million dollar, multi-faceted, and many-month projects like reconstructing Hais Street, revitalizing downtown Fonthill, constructing a new Fire Station #2, or replacing all nine playgrounds in Pelham. (Thanks to the federal and provincial governments for funding two-thirds of each of these important projects!)

Other improvements—like more than 9 km of new sidewalks, including around Pelham Town Square or down Regional Road 20 from Station Street to Rice Road—have enhanced walkability throughout the town.

We have also funded improvements to rural and urban roads and bridges: Effingham from Pelham Road to Kilman; Church Street from Webber Road to Canboro; Line Avenue, Elizabeth Drive; Station Street north; Sheldon Lane; Chantler Road; Maple Street bridge; Sawmill Road bridge; etc.

We've installed +3,200 new, noise-frequency water meters to keep track of water usage and reduce unaccounted water use. We have replaced 7 km of cast iron water mains along roads



DAVE
AUGUSTYN

MAYORAL VIEW

like Churchill, Peachtree, and Hillcrest.

And, we budgeted for more infrastructure improvements in 2013—like revitalizing Downtown Fenwick, and reconstructing Port Robinson Road from Pelham Street to Station.

In January, Dean Allison, our MP, announced \$158,000 from the federal government to match the town's funding of improvements to Old Pelham Town Hall, including the historic Ridgville Cenotaph, and the Pool House at Marlene Stewart Street Park Swimming Pool.

As I stated during the funding announcement, a community is about more than roads, and pipes in the ground. Community is about a "sense of place" like experienced in Pelham's downtowns or beautiful rolling hills.

Community is about our joint heritage and histories like Old Pelham Town Hall and as announced in our Heritage Master Plan. Community is about volunteers—and Pelham has so many committed volunteers!

Just like a home is about more than four walls and a roof,

Do you remember?



Supplied photo

Fenwick Women's Institute was started in 1910 and from 1929 held meetings in the former Quaker Meeting House, now the home of the Model Railroad Association. This picture was taken in 1953. If you know the names of any of these ladies, the Pelham Historical Society would be pleased to hear from you. Send an e-mail to pelhamhistoricalimages@yahoo.ca

community is about people—people coming together, interacting, celebrating, and remembering.

That's why I am so proud of events like those hosted by Pelham service clubs or like Summerfest or the Biedl Skatepark Arva Announcement or the Bandsheal Concert Series.

That's why the town recently approved by adding a Recreation, Culture, and Wellness department.

And, finally, because it's been discussed and desired for many,

many years, Council recently approved the development of a business case for community recreational facilities. Council plans to give more attention to the building of community and hopes to finally decide on the future recreational, cultural, and wellness facilities and needs for the Town in 2013.

You can contact Mayor Dave Augustyn at mayordave@pelham.ca or read past columns at www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com.

The last gasp of the retired man's brain cells

"Findings from 13 countries suggest that the earlier people retire, the more quickly their memory declines."

Well, this is not encouraging. Arnie's been retired for eight years already.

That would suggest that he's already eight years sadder than the people who stayed on in the job. And he thought he was so smart when he went out the door saying, "See you in



CATHY
BERKHOUT-
BOSSE

REAL ESTATE VIEW

the outside world, you poor bunch of sad-sacks!

Who's the sad-sack now?

The thing about this study that is the most discouraging has got to be the fact that his wife agrees with it. "Oh, yeah, Arnie, she nods, you can't have even half of what you had eight years ago."

"And you weren't all that sharp then."

The encouraging thing (sort of) is that she's been making the same suggestion to him every

year since he turned 40.

Because his mind is apparently losing another half step every year, he can't rightly recall with the dead perfect mental precision he had when he was 20, but he's reasonably sure that on or about his 41st birthday, he may have heard nearly those exact same words.

see BERKHOUT-BOSSE | page 22

■ CELEBRATION: Decorative swags for sale

Fenwick to dress up for 160th anniversary

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

When Fenwick celebrates its 160th anniversary, it will be dressed up for the special affair.

A group of residents have held several meetings at the new Fenwick fire hall to make plans for the significant event being observed Saturday, June 1.

Volunteer Rosemary Chambers says party plans include a special ceremony at the landmark flag pole on Canboro Rd. to honour its veterans, dedicate it as a historical site and celebrate its restoration.

The event will feature music, food, vendors, historical demonstrations and displays, a history tour and a large display of old vehicles and antique power machinery between 10 a.m. and 11 p.m.

"We are encouraging everyone to come in period dress, anything from 1830 right through to 1960, so get working on your costume."

With the event three months away, Chambers says the planning committee will have plenty of time to get all details sorted out.

"We'll definitely be ready. We have a great committee working on this and everyone is really excited about it."

The town will don "cheerful" pleated

PARTY PLANNING

Who: Fenwick 160th Anniversary Planning Committee

What: Planning celebrations for the 160th anniversary of Fenwick.

When: Every Thursday at 6 p.m.

Where: At the new Fenwick fire hall.

fan swags and bows that can be hung outside of homes and businesses, Chambers says.

At \$25 each, the swags are a metre wide with a 50-centimetre drop in cream and maroon bows which have half-metre tails.

"All the decorations are custom made," says Chambers, noting they are made of nylon and resistant to the sun's UV rays so they can be placed outside.

The maroon 10-loop bows, which have half-metre-long tails, are \$10 each.

Orders must be prepaid and placed no later than April 1 for delivery by May.

For more information about how to purchase decorations call Sally Jaeger at the Town of Pelham's recreation department at 905-892-2607 ext. 347.

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Information is provided for reference only. For specific health issues consult your local natural health practitioner.

■ VOLUNTEER AWARD

Kinsmen to honour student volunteer

Fonthill and District Kinsmen are accepting nominations for the 2013 Paul Bray Memorial Student Volunteer Award.

The biannual award in memory of Welland resident and Fonthill Kin Paul Bray recognizes outstanding volunteerism by a secondary school student attending a Welland or Pelham secondary school.

The Kinsmen present a plaque to the recipient and a \$1,000 cheque in his or her name to a recognized charity of their choosing.

To qualify the nominee must be a full-time student attending Welland Centennial, Confederation, Eastdale, E.L.

Crossley, Jean Vanier or Notre Dame.

Selection for this award will be based on community volunteerism for 2011 and 2012.

The Kinsmen encourage members of the public to nominate a student. Nominators must submit a detailed account of the student's volunteer contributions to assist in the selection process.

More information is available online at www.fonthillkinsmen.ca or call Kevin Twomey at 905-892-2377.

All nominations must be mailed to Fonthill Kinsmen, Box 906 Fonthill, Ont., L0S 1E0, before April 30.

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in rate \$10.00/\$5.50

For more information contact Julie Cook at (905)892-2607, ext. 329

Women's Shiny Hockey - \$5.50 per drop in
Monday, Mar 18th 9:30am - 10:30 am

Men's Shiny Hockey - \$5.50 per drop in
Friday Mar 22nd 9:00am - 10:00am
Tuesday Mar 26th 8:00am - 9:00am

Public Skating
Friday Mar 22nd 8:00pm - 9:30pm
Sunday Mar 24th 1:00pm - 2:20pm
Tuesday Mar 26th 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Parent/ Preschool Skate
Friday Mar 22nd 10:00am - 11:00am
Tuesday Mar 26th 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Adult Skate
Thursday Mar 28th 1:00pm - 2:00pm

"ZUMBA FITNESS"
Tuesday Mar 26th 7:30pm - 8:30pm

"ZUMBA GOLD"
Tuesday Mar 26th 9:30am - 10:30am
Thursday Mar 28th 9:30am - 10:30am

Drop in and by a session for \$6.00 (or purchase your 10 + 2 bonus passes for \$60.00)

Need more info to contact: Julie Cook (905) 892-2607, ext. 329

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Thursdays Old Pelham Town Hall - 46 Cantoro Rd. Ridgville
(4-7 yrs) 5:30 - 6:00pm
(8-13 yrs) 6:00 - 6:30pm

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Walking Club

Interested in Walking in Pelham? Interested in joining a Walking Club? Join us!

Tuesday Mar 26th
Pelham Arena
8am - 10am

Thursday Mar 28th
Fonthill Bandshell
9am - 10:30am

Everyone welcome! For more information please contact
(905) 892-2607 ext 341

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http://www.pelhamlibrary.blogspot.com

The Niagara Handweavers & Spinners Guild will be spinning in the Festival Room on Sat., Mar. 23 from 10 - 2. Drop in to watch. Fee, Pelham Public Library.

STRESS

Karen Robson, a public education co-ordinator for the Canadian Mental Health Association will offer this dynamic presentation on the causes, effects and treatment of stress. Susan Milford, Assistant Director of Human Resources, Brock University will also be there to share her personal story about dealing with stress. Tues., Mar. 26 at 6:00. Free. Register ahead.

Adults Living with ADHD

Robert Cooper, a not so typical ADHD adult, has had a varied career, ranging from entrepreneur to personal photographer for former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. Diagnosed in 1998, he developed a passion to bring ADHD into the public eye and has been assisting others to succeed. His warm and often emotional speaking style has inspired many to take a closer look at the ADHD "community" and the often-neglected members. He quotes facts, relates stories, shows slides, tells jokes and captivates his audience into participating. Robert was the Founding Director of the ADHD Foundation of Canada. Wed. April 3 at 7:00. \$2.00. Register ahead. Pelham Public Library.

Clothing Sale

Mon. April 8th, Sat. April 13th
All styles and sizes of clothing for men, women and children being accepted.

Ongoing

Knit Wits - Knitting Club
Work on your present project while spending time with other knitters. All levels are welcome. Crocheters welcome. Knitting tips will be shared at each session. Fridays from 1-3. Begins Jan. 4. \$2.00 includes refreshments. Drop in.

Meditation Morning

Maria leads you through different types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. For fun, learn what the symbols from your creative visualization mean. Bring a pen and notebook. \$3.00. Please register ahead. Sat, Feb 9 & Mar 2. 9:30-11:30 am.

Drop-In Bridge

Alternate Wednesdays. 1:00-3:00 p.m. Come alone or with a friend. Refreshments. Monthly schedule available at front desk. Pelham Public Library.

Computer Tutor & Gadget Clinic

Get matched with a volunteer tech tutor for one-on-one help and training. This clinic is suited for beginners. We can help with web browsing, troubleshooting, e-mail account set-up and management, E-readers, e-books and audiobooks from your library, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media; YouTube; managing, editing and sharing your digital photos online; and more. Includes use of laptop or BYOD (bring your own gadget). Saturdays - 10 am - 1 pm. \$5.00 per 1/2 hour. Please register ahead in person to reserve your space. Pelham Public Library.

Monthly Hearing Clinic

Concert Hearing will be here at the Fonthill Branch giving free hearing screenings. They will be able to answer any questions about various hearing issues. Free but please schedule your appointment at: 905-892-0088. Feb. 4. 10:00am - 1:00pm

GENERAL INFORMATION**Funerials' 150th Anniversary Celebration**

Orders are now being taken for bows & aways to decorate your home or business for this special event. Order forms are available at the Municipal Offices, 20 Pelham Town Square, on-line at www.pelham.ca or call Gary & Rosemary Chambers at 905-892-2949. Deadline for orders is Thursday, March 28, 2013.

Summerfest 2013

It's never too early to start thinking about Pelham's summer fun festival! Check out the updates at www.pelhamsummerfest.ca. Art show, vendor and sponsorship applications are now available on-line.

"Town of Pelham - RESERVE CROSSING GUARDS"

There is an immediate need for reserve school crossing guards to relieve the regular guards during periods of illness and vacation. The position has

an hourly pay rate of \$12.98 per hour.

Persons interested in becoming a reserve school crossing guard can pick up an application form in the Recreation, Culture & Wellness Department (20 Pelham Town Square).

Overnight Parking

Please be reminded By-Law No. 89-2000 as amended by By-Law #265/2000 prohibits parking on all roads and streets in the Town of Pelham, except Church Hill from 2:00am to 6:00am from November 1 to March 31

Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

Please be reminded By-law No. 3164 (2011) requires that, after the effective end of any winter precipitation event, the owner or occupant of every occupied building and the owner of every unoccupied building and the owner of every parcel of vacant land, after clear away and remove, or cause to be cleared away and removed, snow and ice from the sidewalk to a clear condition within twenty-four (24) hours. Please take steps to ensure that you are in compliance with the by-law.

Town of Pelham - SNOW ANGELO PROGRAM

The Town of Pelham in partnership with Pelham Cares Inc. offers a volunteer snow removal service for persons within the Town of Pelham urban areas' living with physical disabilities who are incapable of carrying out sidewalk snow/ice removal at their place of residence.

Volunteers will have 24 hours to clear the snow/ice following the effective end of any winter precipitation event (winter precipitation events means snow, freezing rain or hail that leaves any accumulation of snow/ice on the sidewalk). Volunteers will remove snow/ice from the municipal sidewalk and the window let at driveway entrances by snowplows during snow clearing operations.

Application forms for residents and volunteers are available on the Town's website at www.pelham.ca or at Town Hall. Please call 905-892-2607 extension 333 for additional information.

Interested in Joining the Communities in Bloom Committee?

The Communities in Bloom Committee is a Town Committee dedicated to keeping Pelham beautiful. The Committee is responsible for planning events such as Pelham's Annual Garden Tour and Community Participation Day's in the Fall and Spring. To become part of this committee or for further information please contact the Recreation, Culture & Wellness Coordinator (905) 892-2607 ext 341.

Is your business interested in being listed in the Town of Pelham Recreation, Culture & Wellness Guide?

Yes, please be sure to fill out a business directory information card with the Town of Pelham. For an information card, please visit Town Hall, 20 Pelham Town Square - 1st Floor, or contact 905-892-2607, Ext. 315

Interested in renting the Ice? Arena/Hall? Old Pelham Town Hall?

Call the Town of Pelham at 905-892-2607, Ext. 329

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Visit our Web site at www.pelham.ca



JULIE JOCSAK QMI Agency Niagara

The First Nations deer hunt at Short Hills Provincial Park cost just \$1,200 less than the park's annual operating budget, records show.

■ CONTROVERSY

Short Hills deer hunt cost taxpayers \$24,600

DAN DAKIN
QMI Agency Niagara

ST. CATHARINES — The controversial four-day deer hunt at Short Hills Provincial Park in January cost the Ministry of Natural Resources \$24,600, QMI Agency Niagara has learned.

That's \$1,200 shy of the 720-hectare park's entire 2012-13 operating budget of \$25,800.

After QMI filed a Freedom of Information request about the First Nations hunt conducted by the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the ministry released the cost figure two weeks ago.

The First Nations community, which was granted the right to conduct the hunt under long-existing aboriginal treaty rights, won't have to cover the costs.

"The MNR is committed to meeting its constitutional obligations respecting aboriginal and treaty rights, and hunting is a recognized traditional activity," said senior MNR media relations officer Jolanta Kowalski.

While the cost of the hunt nearly matches the annual budget for Short Hills, Kowalski said it won't impact the park's finances because the cost of the hunt was being spread across a number of parks in the province.

The hunt was held on the weekends of Jan. 5 and 6 and Jan. 12 and 13. Using archery, the First Nations hunters harvested a total of seven deer over four

days. But the hunt raised the ire of local residents — who were upset with any type of hunting in the park — and non-aboriginal hunters who felt they should have been allowed to hunt, too.

"I'm not arguing native rights. It's that no one should be allowed to hunt in the park," said Robin Zavitz, whose property backs onto Short Hills. She led the protest effort and met with a Haudenosaunee official on the first day of the hunt in hopes it would be stopped.

QMI filed its Freedom of Information request with the ministry's privacy co-ordinator Jan. 23. The request was for all correspondence and documents regarding the hunt covering the time span of Dec. 1 to Jan. 23.

In a response letter dated Feb. 14, information and privacy co-ordinator Laura Lee May said a preliminary estimate showed there were "approximately 2,300 pages of records, which include briefing notes, house notes, correspondence, e-mails, plans, handwritten notes and agreements."

In order to continue the FOI request, QMI would have had to pay approximately \$1,370 in fees. The ministry estimated the cost of processing the request at \$1,020 for search time (34 hours at \$30 per hour), record preparation time (three hours), plus another \$260 for photocopies.

see HUNT | page 10



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■ HOME IMPROVEMENT: Spring event returns in one month

Home show spots selling out

SARAH FERGUSON
Pelhamnews Staff

One of the first signs that spring is near is the arrival of the Pelham Home and Leisure Show.

And that means homeowners will be looking for creative ideas to spruce up their houses for the coming months.

The annual three-day event at Fonthill Arena won't be

held until April 19 to 21, but Fonthill Kinsmen member Barney Ubbink said booths available for vendors are filling up fast.

Applications are available online at www.fonthillkinsmen.ca.

Each year, the home show sees 1,500 to 2,000 people turn out to visit with 70 to 85 vendors who offer products and services in home repairs, renovations and gardening.

Ubbink said the service club is limiting the types of vendors to two per category.

Admission to the show will be a \$2 fee earmarked for local charities, including Pelham Cares.

The show is the Fonthill

Kinsmen club's major fund-raiser for the year.

"All of the money that we raise goes right back into the community," Ubbink said.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: *s_ferguson25*



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■ HUNT

Safety of hunt was primary concern

FROM PAGE 8

Instead, QMI requested more information be released without the use of the FOI request, which the ministry agreed to.

Kowalski said the Haudenosaunee first contacted the ministry in October about conducting a deer hunt at Short Hills, similar to what they do in other public parks in Ontario.

Planning and negotiations continued until late December, when the green

light for the hunt was given.

"The safety of the hunt was our primary concern, and approval to proceed hinged on the safety protocol being agreed to and in place," Kowalski said.

Zavitz said she does not agree that the park is a wise choice as a place to hold a deer hunt that.

"It's ludicrous to say they can have a safe hunt within Short Hills Provincial Park. There can't secure it. There are too many private boundaries," she said.



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

The Fonthill and District Kinsmen Home and Leisure Show is fast approaching and event co-chair Barney Ubbink has been hard at work getting everything ready for the big day.



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SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Hundreds of swans rest at a pond along River Rd. in Pelham last week.

■ **NATURE:** It's true what they say: birds of a feather flock together

Swans make stop in Pelham

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

For Ellen Robins, one of the first signs of spring is the arrival of swans that visit a pond on the corner of her River Rd. property near Cream St.

Each year, she said, the swans arrive — sometimes for a day, other times just for a few hours.

Last year only a handful of swans stopped. But last week on Monday, hundreds of swans made a pit stop in their travels for a drink, to search for food and have a much-needed rest during their migration.

Rested and renewed.

Robins said the swans took flight and continued their journey about noon.

"I can't remember ever seeing this many," Robins said, estimating about 500 swans had landed on her property.

Kim Frohlich, a Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority ecologist, said the birds were likely trumpeter or tundra swans. After seeing a photo that was shot from a distance, she could not say for sure which type of swans arrived in Pelham.

Trumpeter swans are known for their long, straight necks, black bills and faces. Their legs are gray-pink, turning yellowish gray to

dull black. Their bills are gray-black at the base, pink towards tip and turning completely black.

Tundra swans also have long, straight necks with black bills and faces. They usually have a yellow spot in front of their eyes and their legs are gray-pink, turning dull black. Their bills are pinkish gray, turning black at base and towards tip and turning completely black.

Although the NPCA doesn't typically receive calls about swans in region, Frohlich said tundra swans are known for landing in Wainfleet at Long Beach Conservation Area during their migration.

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■ **CONTEST:** PenFinancial, Sprowt.ca team up for third event

Student videos will be rewarded with scholarships

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNews Staff

Passion, dedication and knowledge can take Niagara's youth to the top of the world.

PenFinancial Credit Union and Sprowt.ca want to help with their education to get them there via the third annual Video Scholarship Contest.

PenFinancial marketing and communications officer Josh Juhlike said submitted videos are not judged on quality, but on passion and creativity.

"We try to encourage everyone to apply — not just people who have access to high-quality equipment or video-editing software," he said.

The contest is open to any student who resides in Niagara and is enrolled or accepted to a post-secondary institution. The application period opened March 1 and will continue until Friday, April 26.

Students are asked to create a two-minute video explaining what they want to be when they grow up and why.

Students can download appli-

cations at www.sprowt.ca/scholarship and upload videos to YouTube.com.

The top five videos will be selected by a panel of judges then posted online together so that the public can vote for their favourites.

Those votes will determine the winners, but all five will receive cash prizes.

First place will get a \$2,000 scholarship, second \$800, third \$600 fourth \$400 and fifth will get \$200. All five winners will be announced in June.

Last year more than 25 people submitted videos. Juhlike hopes even more will enter this year to give the program more exposure.

"It's cool to see schools gather as a community to support their students' submissions," he said.

"It's good exposure for the school, it's good for Niagara and it promotes all the creative, passionate students we have here."

All the video submissions from last year are still posted on Sprowt's website for students looking for ideas and guidelines.

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■ **AT THE LIBRARY:** Library staff thankful for community support

Book sale raises funds for library programs

For PelhamNews

LIBRARY INFO

Important information about Pelham Public Library

■ The Pelham Public Library Board has announced reductions to the library's hours.

■ Beginning Saturday, March 2, the Fonthill branch will open at 10 a.m.

■ Beginning Saturday, March 30, the Maple Acre Branch will close Saturday.

■ Beginning Friday, April 5, both branches will close at 5 p.m. on Friday.

■ For more information, contact library director Stephanie Stowe or board member Maxine Gaylor by calling 905-892-6443.



Fran Giles

AT THE LIBRARY

Among the activities which benefit from the various money-raising efforts are the March Break children's programs. Owing to the generosity of the community, we kept the cost to participants to \$4 per activity and, as a consequence, the March Break programs were oversubscribed.

Our advice to future participants is to register early so your children won't be disappointed. Early registration for adult programs is also a good idea because some events have been cancelled when the advance registrations didn't indicate enough interest to warrant holding them.

On another public service note, it has come to my attention that some of our members find the public catalogue difficult to use. Although the desk staff is always willing to help users navigate the system, it may be preferable to try to help yourself if they are too busy to get to it right away. After all, Knowledge is Power.

If you know the author, or title, the simple search screen—the short one that comes up automatically—can usually tell you whether the item is in the building and where it is. Simply type in what you know—the title is the quickest way to go—Blue Shoes

and Happiness, for instance. The search screen will tell you: the item is a book, it's by Alexander McCall Smith, the Pelham Library System (Fonthill and Maple Acre in Fenwick) has three copies, there are two regular print copies and one large print copy, the Fonthill regular print copy is checked out but the large print copy is available, the regular print copy at the Fenwick Branch is available and there is no film of the book but if there were it would say so.

That is a lot of information from one small screen and it doesn't stop there.

On the right side of the screen are a few suggestions for other topics you might look up such as other books by the same author, or other books in the series, or other information about the country the series is set in. You can request the book—click on Place Hold—or find out some more details about the book if you click on the picture of the cover or the title of the book.

Next month, I will talk a bit about how to find books when you don't know either author or title and I will also finally get around to some actual book talk which is the real purpose of this exercise.

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■ COMMUNITY



SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo
Felicetta Leone celebrates the 50th year of her career at Vermeer's Garden Centre and Flower Shop on South Pelham Rd. Wednesday. Standing next to her is Leone's boss and longtime friend Gerry Vermeer.

50 years on the job — at age 93

SARAH FERGUSON
PelhamNews Staff

It's quite an accomplishment to say you've been working at the same place for 50 years — especially if you happen to be 93 years old.

Felicetta Leone continues to greet customers at Vermeer's Garden Centre and Flower Shop with a bright smile and a hello.

She's been doing it for a half-century and she doesn't plan on retiring any time soon.

Felicetta began working at the garden centre on South Pelham Rd. on March 13, 1963 — when she was 43 years old.

"I wanted to retire at 65, but Mr. Vermeer said he would miss me too much," she quipped.

The Vermeers purchased the flower shop in 1961 and later hired Felicetta as the family-owned flower shop's first employee.

She came to live in Welland after immigrating from Italy in 1952 and began working at a canning factory on Foss Rd., where she remained for about a decade.

"I didn't want to work there anymore," she said about the canning factory, adding "it was difficult work."

That's when she learned about the garden centre opening.

"She has become part of the family," said store owner Gerry Vermeer.

"She was here even before I was," said the 49-year-old, as he described Felicetta as his second grandmother.

Felicetta is responsible for transplanting and staking hydrangeas — a job that only she does at the garden centre.

It's something she loves to do, and she is very good at it, according to Vermeer.

"As long as she is healthy she'll keep working," he added.

If Felicetta were to retire, she would be greatly missed.

With no end in sight for her career, Felicetta works five days a week during the spring from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and works part-time during the slower months.

She said she wouldn't trade her job for anything.

"I love what I do."

During her spare time, Felicetta doesn't care for watching television or sitting still — people she likes keep herself busy crocheting items such as blankets and afghans for family and friends.

Although some may say she is crazy for continuing to work so long, Felicetta doesn't think so.

And neither do the Vermeers.

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AROUND TOWN

SATURDAY

MARCH 23 CARD NIGHT

Progressive euchre night at Fonthill Lions Hall, Hwy. 20, Fonthill. Games start at 7 p.m. and features prizes, a light meal and cash bar. \$5 per person.

NIAGARA HANDWEAVERS

and the Spinners Guild will be spinning in the Festival Room from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Drop in to watch. Free. Pelham Public Library, Fonthill branch.

MONDAY

MARCH 25

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Pelham Horticultural Society meeting at Fonthill Library, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.. Irish Rybski P.H.E., Pelham Hort. Society Director, will demonstrate cooking with herbs, including tastings and recipes. This will inspire new uses for the herbs in your garden. New members and guests welcome.

TUESDAY

MARCH 26

STRESS

Karen Robson, a public education co-ordinator for the Canadian Mental Health Association will offer this dynamic presentation on the causes, effects and treatment of stress. Susan Mifsud, Assistant Director of Human Resources, Brock University will also be present to share her personal story about dealing with stress. 6 p.m. Free. Register ahead. Pelham Public Library.

THURSDAY

MARCH 28

GNOCCHI DINNER

Held from the Casa Dante (back door) from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. until food lasts. Dinners are \$10. Take out only. Sauce and meatballs are also available.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 3

LIVING WITH ADHD

Robert Cooper, a not so typical ADHD adult, has had a varied career, ranging from entrepreneur to personal biographer for former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. He will talk about the ADHD community. 7 p.m. \$2. Register ahead. Pelham Public Library.

MONDAY

APRIL 8

CLOTHING SALE

Pelham Public Library's annual clothing sale begins and runs until April 13. All sizes and sizes of clothing for men, women and children being

accepted.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 17

PAIN MANAGEMENT

For individuals with arthritis of hip and knee joints, strategies will be discussed on how to manage pain and mobility issues. We will host a discussion program that helps with assessment and with navigating the health care system. 2 p.m. Free. Register ahead at Pelham Public Library.

TUESDAY

APRIL 16

PAIN MANAGEMENT

Scotiabank Giller Prize Winner Elizabeth Hay will speak at Pelham Public Library. Elizabeth is the recipient of the prestigious Marian Engel Award. 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Please purchase ahead.

MONDAY

MAY 6

NIAGARA BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.

Meet at the Niagara Regional Police Service community room, 5 Lincoln St., Welland, starts at 7 p.m.

ONGOING LISTINGS

EASTER CONCERT SERIES

The 20th Annual Marjorie Stirtzinger Memorial Music of Easter, Fonthill Baptist Church. Come celebrate the music of Easter with a series of four noon-hour organ recitals by local and prominent organists: March 25, Paul White; March 26, John Clippsham; March 27, David Cowen; March 28, Luca Chorosinski. Admission free. Noon to 1 p.m. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea provided

HEARING CLINIC

Connect Hearing will be at the Fonthill branch giving free hearing screenings and answering any questions about hearing issues. Free but please schedule your appointment ahead at 905-892-6068. Monday, March 25 and Monday April 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pelham Public Library.

DROP-IN CRIBBAGE

Every Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion branch 613, Fonthill. Draw for partners. No charge, everyone welcome.

KNITTING CLUB

Work on your present project while spending time with other knitters at Pelham Public Library. All levels are welcome. Crocheters welcome. Knitting tips will be shared at each session. Fridays from 1-3. \$2 includes refreshments. Drop in.

■ HOCKEY

Black Panthers finalists at Golden Puck Tournament

For PelhamNews

Mossimo's Pewee Black Panthers finished second in their division in the Golden Puck Hockey Tournament held in Port Colborne. The Panthers defeated Port Colborne Blue 10-1 thanks to points earned by Reid Murray, Braeden Prout, Jeremy Pollard and Hayden Stewart.

The Panthers started out slow in their next match but their team chemistry kicked in to make it a game. The Panthers were defeated by LeFroy 2-1. Robbie Harper earned the single point.

The pewees had better luck in their next game against Ingersoll, winning 6-4 with help from Prout, Pollard, Murray and Nick Yliodissis.

Tristan Barnhart earned a 3-0 victory for the Panthers in the semi-finals against the Thorold Community Credit Union Blackhawks. Prout and Pollard picked up points for the Panthers.

The Panthers had a re-match with LeFroy in the championship final. Both teams came ready for action and gave the crowd a show.

In a game that featured strong play from the Panthers' blueliners, Ethan Guitard, Zach Baltrušinas, Dan Durkin, Stewart and Yliodissis, the Panthers struggled to score against LeFroy.

Pollard found success with a power play goal from a scramble in front of the net. The game's last minute dramatics resulted in an empty net goal and a 3-1 victory for LeFroy.

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2013 BMW 328i xDrive shown.



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Supplied photo

The Niagara Rangers major atom boys won gold in the Blessed Sacrament Tournament. Pictured, from left to right, (front) Austin Cooper, Sam Pynn, Devin Voordouw, Nathan Taylor, Ethan Taylor (back) Coach Chris MacEachern, Mason MacEachern, Ben MacDonald, Steven Christie, Darren Johnston, Rashone Henry and Coach Derek Lahn.

■ **BASKETBALL:** Rangers named top team in Blessed Sacrament Tourney

Niagara Rangers atom boys win gold

For PelhamNews

In major atom boys action, the Niagara Rangers were the top team at the Blessed Sacrament Tournament. They recently travelled to Hamilton where the tourney was held, and returned home with the gold medal.

The Rangers advanced to the semifinals where they beat out East

York 49-29 and they went on to defeat the Whitby Wildcats 36-24 in the final game of the tournament.

The top scoring Rangers during the tournament were Joshua Lahn with 62 points, Darren Johnston with 43 points, Sam Pynn with 35 points, Mason MacEachern with 18 points, Nathan Taylor with 11 points, Devin Voordouw with eight

points, Ethan Taylor with seven points, Steven Christie with six points, Austin Cooper earned four points along with Ben MacDonald and Rashone Henry with two points each.



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■ BERTHOUD-BOSSE

Crossword puzzles aren't going to help

FROM PAGE 4

"You can't have even half of what you had as little as five years ago. And you weren't all that sharp then."

So maybe the retirement isn't even the problem. Maybe he's just slipping behind the play a little bit every year, and soon enough he won't even be able to see the rest of the players.

Arn reads on, hoping for some hopeful signs. He can feel how slowly he's reading, and now understands how little he is actually comprehending, because this article is telling him that's just the way it is.

"Maybe there's something in here to tell me some way to counteract the devastating effects of this retirement disease from which I suffer so acutely: His slow-frothing mind is fumbling to locate one tiny morsel of hope in the hopeless and barren landscape spread out there in front of him on the top left corner of page 22, right

under the date and name of the section, "Food for Thought."

He does stumble onto something, too.

"If you do crossword puzzles..." it reads.

Breathlessly, he staggers on, smelling the hint of a waft of some kind of rescue from his isle of ineptitude....

"If you do crossword puzzles," it says, "you get better at crossword puzzles. There is no sign that mastering these kinds of activities improves overall functioning."

Arn would be getting really mad about now, except for one thing.

He hates crossword puzzles.

In the end, old Arn manages to find at least one positive in the exercise.

"Positives?" you might ask. "What positives?"

Well, even though you might be a whiz at crossword puzzles, Arnie won't be out there alone on the sinking ship. You're going down too.

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EASTER IN MEMORIAM

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while supplies last!



LOSE THE PAIN
LeafSource

\$300 OFF The Healthy Cupboard

WITH COUPON EXPIRES MARCH 30, 2013

This coming from a customer who had tried every other natural remedy under the sun in the past few years to take away her pain. In, the owner of The Healthy Cupboard couldn't believe his ears. He had finally found the perfect product to stop his customer's misery. This is what every owner of a health food store dreams about, a natural product that receives so many outstanding testimonials on such a wide variety of health issues. "I had recommended a new product called LeafSource, which we recently started carrying. We have had tremendous success with this product, and almost everyone we have recommended it to over the last few months has come back and thanked us over and over again!" said Ian. Before trying LeafSource, the woman had complained about her ongoing joint pain and was at her wit's end. Although she had experienced some relief through the numerous natural remedies she had tried over the years, the pain would never fully go away. "She returned to my store, in tears, less than one week after buying LeafSource. I didn't know what to make of this woman standing in front of me crying, until she told me that within a few days of taking LeafSource her pain started to disappear and within a week it was completely gone - as if it was never there." Ian goes on, "This coming from a woman whose painful joints and ongoing sciatica were so bad just one week earlier, that the pain was unbearable but now has completely subsided." By now you are probably

wondering what is LeafSource and why is it so effective? LeafSource is a 100% natural product derived from a proprietary organic mineral composite with over ten years of university research. LeafSource helps regulate the inflammatory process and the body's ability to repair itself. The vast majority (70 - 80%) of the population over the age of 50 have joint problems — often called osteoarthritis. This is due to the natural (or unnatural) wear and tear on joint tissue that develops through the aging process. With joint inflammation, movement is limited and pain can be constant. LeafSource seems to have the ability to help people get their mobility and zest for life back. Millions of people seek treatment for their joint and inflammation problems by resorting to expensive, toxic prescription drugs (i.e. NSAIDs) with multiple side effects. These range from nausea and vomiting to serious intestinal disorders (bleeding, gas, pain) and even kidney and liver failure. Isn't that too large a price to pay for a little pain relief? LeafSource is a safe alternative to these destructive anti-inflammatory drugs that cause more problems than they solve. There are absolutely no side effects and it doesn't interfere with any other medications. Controlled experiments and observations have revealed that LeafSource is a potent anti-inflammatory that has been shown to bring a reduction to inflammation and pain within a few days. People notice great results in terms of more energy and less pain by taking

anywhere from 2 to 6 capsules/day. Typical maintenance is usually 1 capsule twice daily. This product gets results! LeafSource is scientifically validated through more than 10 years of research at 4 universities, including the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mercer University. Aside from its incredible anti-inflammatory and pain reducing ability, it has also been shown to improve the performance of your daily nutrition and vitamin programs. It helps increase the absorption of vital nutrients, which in turn helps these nutrients work better. Better absorption = better results! It's almost as if they have become supercharged! LeafSource has also been shown to help enhance energy levels, improve intestinal health, strengthen hair, skin and nails and improve immune function. To see someone go from intense pain to a new lease on life within a week is truly incredible. Imagine being able to move freely without pain. Who wouldn't want to get out of bed in the morning with more energy? It's amazing how much of this stuff we take for granted, until it's gone! Ian adds, "I often recommend that LeafSource be taken with other natural joint products in order to help them work better and provide even faster relief. One of the things I hear most often from people who have tried LeafSource is they just plain feel better, have more energy and less pain. We're so confident, we guarantee LeafSource 100%! That alone should be enough to try this incredible product."

The Healthy Cupboard

NEW
WEBSITE



**Tanya &
Ian Birrell**
Owners of
The Healthy Cupboard

TWO LOCATIONS!

FONTHILL

111 #20 EAST

PORT COLBORNE

101 CLARENCE STREET

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